Government of India supplements the efforts of State Governments by commissioning power projects through Central Public Sector Undertakings.

The following steps have been taken/are being taken by the Government to improve availability of power in Assam:

(i) Assam has been allocated 806 - 821 Mega Watt (MW) power from the Central Generating Stations.

(ii) Assam has been allocated 381 MW firm power from Bongaigaon TPS (3x250 MW), which is under implemented by NTPC and is being monitored for giving benefit during the 11th Plan.

Power generation in NER

3508. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the hydro power potential of the North Eastern Region (NER) and Assam;

(b) the details of the hydro power potential exploited till October, 2009 in NER, State-wise;

(c) the promotion of investment being made by Government in hydro power sector in the entire NER along with the proportion of foreign assistance thereto;

(d) the details of thermal/atomic power generation potential exploited in NER so far; and

(e) the proportion of thermal/atomic and hydropower in the total power generation in the entire NER?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) As per the reassessment studies completed by Central Electricity Authority in 1987, the total identified hydro capacity in the country is of the order of 148701 MW which comprises 58971 MW in the North Eastern Region (NER). The state-wise details of Hydro power potential in NER, in terms of installed capacity (above 25 MW) and details of the hydro power potential exploited till Oct., 2009 in the region, is given below:

State	Identified Hydro Capacity as per re-assessment study (MW)		Capacity Developed	Under Construction
	Total (MW)	(above 25 MW)	(MW)	(MW)
1	2	3	4	5
Meghalaya	2394	2298	156.0	166.0
Tripura	15	0	0.0	0.0
Manipur	1784	1761	105.0	0.0
Assam	680	650	375.0	0.0

1	2	3	4	5
Nagaland	1574	1452	75.0	0.0
Arunachal Pradesh	50328	50064	405.0	2710.0
Mizoram	2196	2131	0.0	0.0
Sub-total (NER)	58971	58356	1116.0	2876.0

(c) Investment in Hydro power in the North Eastern Region(NER) is promoted by the Central Government through formulation of policies conducive for attracting investment in the Hydro power sector of the region. As per the Mega Power Policy of the Central Government, the qualifying threshold capacity for Hydro power plants set up in the NER for availing Mega power project benefits is 350 MW, whereas for States other than J&K, Sikkim and the seven States in the NER, the threshold capacity is 500 MW. Further, the Hydro policy 2008 seeks to induce larger private investments in the development of Hydro power projects in the country including the NER, which is particularly rich in hydro power resources. The Central Government also invests in the equities of the power projects of some of the Central Power Sector units implementing Hydro Electric Projects in the region. Besides, the possibility of availing concessional finance for hydro power projects in the form of viability gap funding, subordinate debt though Central Government etc. are explored, if found necessary in the national interest.

The Project Developers in the Central and State sector explore the possibility of foreign assistance/loan to finance their projects from the foreign assistance available for this sector for the period. The foreign assistance is availed project wise as per due procedure. At present Pare Hydro Electric Project(HEP) being executed by North Eastern Electric Power Corporation(NEEPCO) and Renovation and Modernization of Umiam II HEP being executed by the Meghalaya State Electricity Board are the two externally aided projects under construction in the NER with a foreign loan component for Euro 80 million and Japanese yen 1965 million respectively.

(d) Thermal Power Plants (include Coal, Gas, and Diesel), aggregating to total installed capacity of 968.74 MW, have been set up so far in the NER. No atomic power plant has so far been set up in the NER.

(e) The total installed capacity of NER as on 30.11.2009 was 2284.82 MW. The proportion of thermal and hydro in the total power generation in NER is given below:

Mode of Generation	I.C. (MW)	Proportion of Total I.C. (%)
Thermal	968.74	42.4
Atomic	Nil	Nil
Hydro	1116	48.8
Renewable Energy Sources (MNRE)	200.08	8.8
TOTAL	2284.82	